MARVEL COMICS
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Fantastic Four
Fantastic Four
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JIM LEE
BRANDON CHOI
SCOTT WILLIAMS
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JMLEE
WILLIAMS

AS DUSK FALLS OVER THE AFRICAN NATION OF WAKANDA, A LONE FIGURE STUMBLES OUT OF THE DEEP, DARK JUNGLE --
-- WEARY FROM THREE DAYS OF RUNNING IN A BITTER CONTEST FOR SURVIVAL.
IN SHORT: THE HUNTER HAS BECOME THE HUNTED.
AS THE LEADER OF AN ELITE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE M'TOMBA'S MISSION WAS SIMPLE: TO FIND A MYSTERIOUS OBJECT THAT HAD TUMBLED DOWN FROM THE HEAVENS SEVERAL WEEKS EARLIER.
AT THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, M'TOMBA'S ONLY CONCERN IS WARNING HIS PEOPLE OF THE DANGER BEFORE IT IS --
TOO LATE!
GRRRR
RRRIPPP
THE CONTEST IS FINALLY OVER.
IT'S THE OLDEST LAW OF THE JUNGLE. ONE THAT M'TOMBA HIMSELF WAS TAUGHT GROWING UP.
THE PREDATOR ALWAYS TAKES DOWN THE PREY!
UNFORTUNATELY, THEY NEVER DARED TO EXPECT WHAT THEY ACTUALLY FOUND.
NOW, AFTER AN UNRELENTING BATTLE OF WITS AND COMBAT SKILLS, M'TOMBA BELIEVES HE MAY HAVE FINALLY ELUDED HIS UNCANNY PURSUERS...
...AS THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A GROUP THAT ONCE NUMBERED TWENTY!

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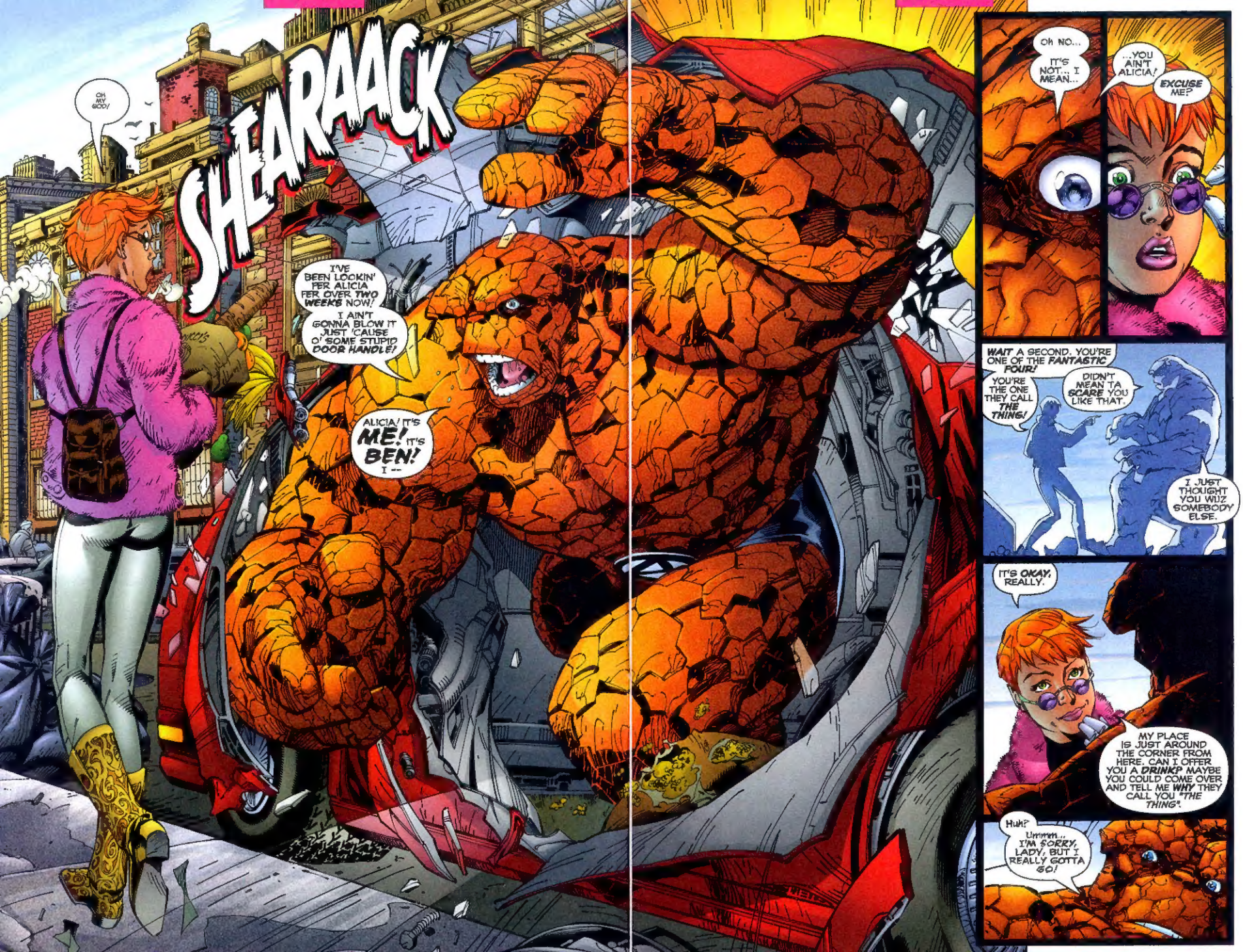
Another fine HacsA/Grundy scan

HALF A WORLD AWAY, A SOMEWHAT SIMILAR SCENE PLAYS ITSELF OUT --
-- THIS TIME, THE PLAYING FIELD BEING THE CONCRETE JUNGLE OF NEW YORK CITY...
HEY! DON'T I KNOW YOU? YOU LOOK KINDA FAMILIAR.
WELL... I COME IN HERE A LOT -- COLLECTING ACTION FIGURES AND STUFF --
WAIT A SECOND! AREN'T YOU JOHNNY STORM?!
YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN GETTING THAT A LOT LATELY...
YOU ARE! YOU'RE ONE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR! THE HUMAN TORCH! YOU RULE, MAN!
THERE HE IS! I TOLD YOU IT WAS HIM!
JOHNNY, I LOVE YOU!
I'VE JUST GOT TO TOUCH HIM!
STAN LEE Presents The Fabulous Fantastic Four In:
THE HEART OF DARKNESS
JIM LEE Plot & Pencils
BRANDON CHOI Script
SCOTT WILLIAMS / JD Inks
JOE CHIODO & MARTIN JIMENEZ Colors
WILDSTORM FX Computer Colors
RICH n DAVE @ COMICRAFT Letters MIKE HEISLER Editor BOB HARRAS Chief

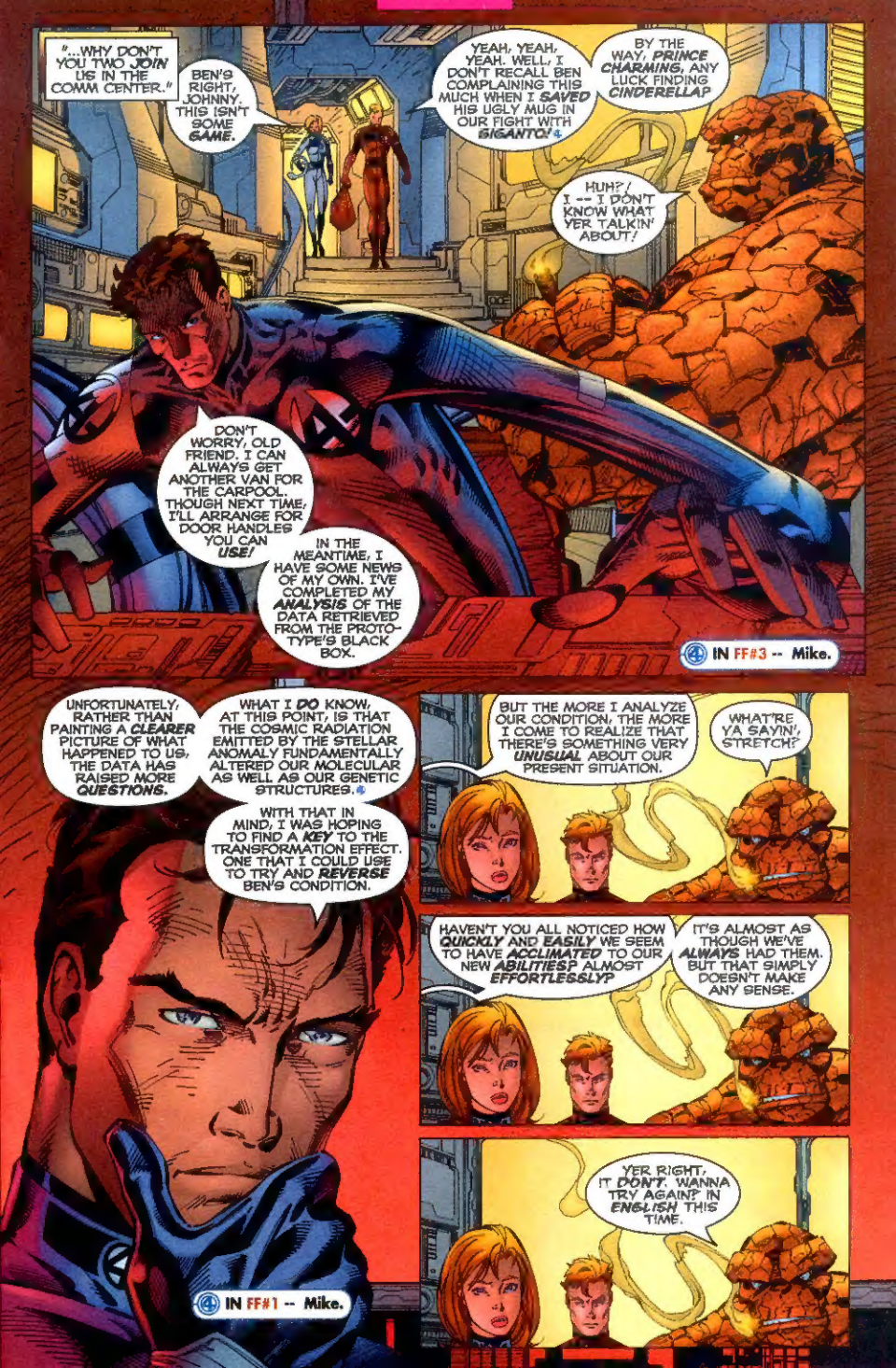
UH-OH! GOTTA GO! BYE!
WAIT! DON'T GO YET!
HE'S SO COOL!
SIGN THIS FOR ME!
THAT'S NOT REALLY HIM!
I'VE GOT TO TOUCH HIM!
I WANT MORE THAN THAT!
LIGHT MY FIRE, JOHNNY!
TOYZ
YOU KNOW, I COULD PROBABLY GET INTO THIS —
— IF THEY WEREN'T ALL FOURTEEN YEAR OLDS!
THERE'S MY BIKE! TIME TO MAKE A QUICK EXIT AND —
HUH?
THE EMERGENCY FLARE!
SOME-THING'S UP! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE BAXTER BUILDING AND FAST!
OUT OF THE FRYING PAN AND INTO THE FIRE!
FLAME ON!
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
OH YEAH! HE SAID IT! HE SAID IT!
WHOA! CHECK OUT HIS BOD!
PLEASE COME BACK!
FWOOOSH
SO LONG, LADIES! IT'S BEEN REAL!

IT JUST DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS!
LOOK! IT'S THE HUMAN TORCH!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ACTUALLY SEEING HIM!
LOOK AT HIM GO! SOMETHING'S GOING ON!
HE'S HEADED FOR THE BAXTER BUILDING!
I HEARD THE FANTASTIC FOUR TURNED IT INTO THEIR NEW HEAD-QUARTERS!
"I TELL YOU, FROM NOW ON THIS TOWN'S GONNA BE ROCKIN'..."
NUTS! ALL THESE STREETS DOWN HERE ARE STARTING TO LOOK THE SAME.
I HATE TO SAY THIS, Mr. GRIMM, BUT I THINK WE'RE LOST.
I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF WE'RE IN SOHO ANY-MORE.
JUST KEEP DRIVIN' 'TILL I TELL YA TO STOP, RICHIE.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, MR. GRIMM.
I'M JUST HAPPY THAT YOU AND DR. RICHARDS GAVE ME THIS JOB, AFTER EVERY-THING THAT HAPPENED AT VANDEMEER.
YEAH, WELL, WE NEEDED SOMEBODY TO DRIVE ME AROUND, SINCE I CAN'T FIT INTO THE DADDLAMED DRIVER'S SEAT.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I'M REALLY HERE IN MANHATTAN, NEW YORK CITY. THE BIG APPLE. THE CITY THAT NEVER --
HOLD IT! THERE SHE IS! IT'S ALICIA!
STOP THE CAR, RICHIE!
DANG IT! I CAN'T GET OUT! MY MITTS DON'T FIT THESE PINT-SIZED HANDLES!
LET ME OUTTA HERE!
OH NO. NOT AGAIN!


SHEARAACK
OH MY GOD!
I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FER ALICIA FER OVER TWO WEEKS NOW!
I AIN'T GONNA BLOW IT JUST 'CAUSE O' SOME STUPID DOOR HANDLE!
ALICIA! IT'S ME! IT'S BEN! I --
OH NO... IT'S NOT... I MEAN...
...YOU AIN'T ALICIA!
EXCUSE ME?
WAIT A SECOND. YOU'RE ONE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR!
YOU'RE THE ONE THEY CALL THE THING!
DIDN'T MEAN TA SCARE YOU LIKE THAT.
I JUST THOUGHT YOU WUZ SOMEBODY ELSE.
IT'S OKAY, REALLY.
MY PLACE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER FROM HERE. CAN I OFFER YOU A DRINK? MAYBE YOU COULD COME OVER AND TELL ME WHY THEY CALL YOU "THE THING".
Huh?
Ummm... I'M SORRY, LADY, BUT I REALLY GOTTA GO!

WELL, IF YOU'D LIKE, I COULD STILL GIVE YOU MY NUMBER. MAYBE WE COULD GET TOGETHER LATER IN THE WEEK OR SOMETHING.
NO...I -- I CAN'T! I'VE GOT THIS THING I HAVE TO DO THEN. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, RICHIE? RICHIE?
MR. GRIMM/ LOOK! ISN'T THAT THE FANTASTIC FOUR FLARE?
YER RIGHT, RICHIE! WE GOTTA ROLL!
TALK ABOUT YER GOOD TIMING!
WELL, GOODBYE! IN CASE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, I LIVE AT --
SORRY. GOTTA RUN!
SIGH!
MR. GRIMM, HOW AM I GOING TO EXPLAIN ANOTHER CAR?
JUST TELL REED THAT I'VE GOT A THING FOR CONVERTIBLES.
FWOOOSH!
THERE'S SUE!
BUT SHE'S ALL ALONE. WONDER WHAT THIS IS ABOUT?

SO WHAT'S WITH THE FLARE, SIS?/ WE GOT A CRISIS SITUATION OR SOMETHING?
IT WAS JUST A TEST, JOHNNY -- WHICH YOU FAILED MISERABLY, I MIGHT ADD. YOUR RESPONSE TIME WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.
WHAT DID YOU DO? TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE THROUGH CENTRAL PARK?
AW, CUT ME SOME SLACK. IF IT'S JUST A DRILL, THEN WHY THE BIG STINK?
HOLD ON! WHY IS YOUR COSTUME RED?
MY EXCUSE FOR BEING LATE/ I DROPPED BY THE TOY BIZ TO PICK UP SOME OF OUR LICENSED TOYS.
CHECK THIS OUT/ TWO COSTUMES MEANS TWO DIFFERENT TOY FIGURES. ONE IN REGULAR BLUE AND THE OTHER IN COMBAT MODE RED.
IS THIS GREAT OR WHAT? AND THIS IS JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG!
Fantastic Four
Fantastic Four
WILL YOU EVER GROW UP, JOHNNY?
THE KID WAS AT THE TOY STORE AGAIN?
WHY AIN'T I SURPRISED? WELL, WHEN HE'S DONE PLAYIN' AROUND...
AS THE TRAINING OFFICER FOR THE GROUP, IT'S MY JOB TO SEE THAT WE WORK WELL AS A TEAM.
SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN THE BAG--


"...WHY DON'T YOU TWO JOIN US IN THE COMM CENTER."
BEN'S RIGHT, JOHNNY. THIS ISN'T SOME GAME.
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH. WELL, I DON'T RECALL BEN COMPLAINING THIS MUCH WHEN I SAVED HIS UGLY MUG IN OUR FIGHT WITH BIGANTO!4
BY THE WAY, PRINCE CHARMING, ANY LUCK FINDING CINDERELLA?
HUH? / I -- I DON'T KNOW WHAT YER TALKIN' ABOUT!
DON'T WORRY, OLD FRIEND. I CAN ALWAYS GET ANOTHER VAN FOR THE CARPOOL. THOUGH NEXT TIME, I'LL ARRANGE FOR DOOR HANDLES YOU CAN USE!
IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE SOME NEWS OF MY OWN. I'VE COMPLETED MY ANALYSIS OF THE DATA RETRIEVED FROM THE PROTO-TYPE'S BLACK BOX.
4 IN FF#3 -- Mike.
UNFORTUNATELY, RATHER THAN PAINTING A CLEARER PICTURE OF WHAT HAPPENED TO US, THE DATA HAS RAISED MORE QUESTIONS.
WHAT I DO KNOW, AT THIS POINT, IS THAT THE COSMIC RADIATION EMITTED BY THE STELLAR ANOMALY FUNDAMENTALLY ALTERED OUR MOLECULAR AS WELL AS OUR GENETIC STRUCTURES.4
WITH THAT IN MIND, I WAS HOPING TO FIND A KEY TO THE TRANSFORMATION EFFECT. ONE THAT I COULD USE TO TRY AND REVERSE BEN'S CONDITION.
4 IN FF#1 -- Mike.
BUT THE MORE I ANALYZE OUR CONDITION, THE MORE I COME TO REALIZE THAT THERE'S SOMETHING VERY UNUSUAL ABOUT OUR PRESENT SITUATION.
WHAT'RE YA SAYIN', STRETCH?
HAVEN'T YOU ALL NOTICED HOW QUICKLY AND EASILY WE SEEM TO HAVE ACCLIMATED TO OUR NEW ABILITIES? ALMOST EFFORTLESSLY?
IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH WE'VE ALWAYS HAD THEM. BUT THAT SIMPLY DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.
YER RIGHT, IT DON'T. WANNA TRY AGAIN? IN ENGLISH THIS TIME.

WELL, I --
WELL, I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE. NOT YET, AT LEAST.
HOWEVER, I MAY HAVE FOUND ANOTHER CLUE THAT COULD HELP ME SOLVE THIS RIDDLE.
FROM THE TELEMETRY DATA IN OUR FLIGHT RECORDER, I'VE MANAGED TO LOCATE THE POINT OF IMPACT ON EARTH OF THE OBJECT THAT EMERGED FROM THE STELLAR ANOMALY AND IRRADIATED US.
IT CRASH-LANDED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE KINGDOM OF WAKANDA.
INDIAN OC
AND AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, THE KING OF WAKANDA IS A PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE OF MINE.
HOW'S THAT?
AS ONE OF THE WEALTHIEST AND MOST POWERFUL MEN IN AFRICA, T'CHALLA HAD A GREAT MANY BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH THE STORM FOUNDATION.
SUE HAS ARRANGED A PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH THE KING, SO THE TWO OF US ARE LEAVING THIS VERY EVENING FOR WAKANDA.
WHAT?! HOW COME JUST THE TWO O' YOU ARE GOIN'? WHAT ABOUT US?
WELL, I FIGURED YOU WOULD HATE TO PASS UP YOUR ENGAGEMENT WITH Ms. MASTERS TONIGHT.
SHE CALLED AND LEFT A MESSAGE WHILE YOU WERE OUT.
WHAT?! ARE YOU KIDDIN' ME?! I HOPE THAT COSMIC RADIATION HASN'T AFFECTED YER SENSE OF HUMOR, REED!
TRUST ME, BEN. HE STILL NEEDS ALL THE HELP HE CAN GET.

SEVERAL HOURS LATER, AND NEARLY HALF A WORLD AWAY...
REED, THE VIEW FROM UP HERE IS SIMPLY SPECTACULAR!
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO SAY THE SAME THING ABOUT THESE PERFORMANCE SPECS ON OUR NEW FANTASTICAR. THEY'VE EXCEEDED MY WILDEST EXPECTATIONS
THE "FANTASTICAR"?
WELL, THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO CALL IT. TONY STARK LOANED ME ONE OF HIS HYPER-SONIC TRANSPORTS SO I COULD MODIFY IT'S ORIGINAL POWER PLANTS WITH MY EXPERIMENTAL PLASMA RODS.
NOW THIS SHIP CAN ACHIEVE HYPER-SONIC SUB-ORBITAL FLIGHT AND ENABLE US TO MAKE TRANS-GLOBAL TRIPS IN A MATTER OF A FEW HOURS.
SORRY. I HOPE I'M NOT BORING YOU.
HOW COULD LIFE WITH "MISTER FANTASTIC" EVER BE BORING?
I'M JUST GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO GET AWAY AND SPEND TIME BY OURSELVES. I --
WHAT'S WRONG, MY LOVE?
SENSORS INDICATE AIRCRAFT APPROACHING. BUT THE SIGNATURES LOOK FUZZY.
IT'S AS THOUGH THEY WERE USING SOME FORM OF STEALTH OR CLOAKING TECHNOLOGY.
REED! ABOVE US!
ATTENTION! YOU HAVE JUST ENTERED WAKANDAN AIR SPACE. PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF. OVER
THIS IS Dr. REED RICHARDS AND SUSAN STORM. WE ARE HERE BY ROYAL INVITATION. TRANSMITTING I.F.F.* CODE NOW. OVER.
CODE RECEIVED AND CONFIRMED! GOOD EVENING, Dr. RICHARDS AND Ms. STORM. WE SHALL ESCORT YOU TO THE LANDING FIELD.
THE KING AWAITS YOUR ARRIVAL.
* Identification Friend or Foe. -- Mike

MEANWHILE . . . BACK IN NEW YORK CITY...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! ALICIA ACTUALLY CALLED ME! SHE WANTS TO GET TOGETHER FOR COFFEE!
WHAT DO I DO?!
NOW THIS IS A SIGHT. OUR BIG WAR HERO GETS THE SHAKES OVER A SIMPLE DATE. HOW'D THEY EVER LET YOU GET INTO A COCKPIT?
HEY! ARE YOU GONNA HELP ME OR JUST BE A PAIN IN THE -- AROOGA AROOGA
WHAT THE -- IT'S THE SECURITY ALARM!
Ah. IT'S PROBABLY JUST A FALSE ALARM! I'LL GO CHECK TO MAKE SURE
WHOA! THERE IS AN INTRUDER! HEY, BUDDY, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING HERE?!
Eh?! STAY BACK!
PHZAM PHZAM
I NEED DR RICHARDS' HELP!
MISTER, YOU'VE GOT A FUNNY WAY OF ASKING!
PHZAM PHZAM
ALL RIGHT! CUT THAT OUT BEFORE SOMEONE GETS HURT AROUND HERE!
NAMELY YERSELF!
WHA?!
SO WHO'S OUR UNINVITED GUEST? LET'S JUST TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT HIM --
HOLY COW! YOU?!

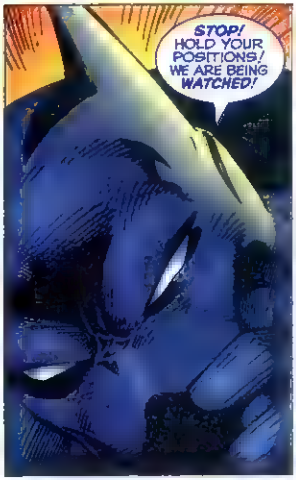
WAKANDA A.F.B.
WELCOME TO WAKANDA, DR. RICHARDS.
AND AS PLEASED AS I AM TO HAVE A MAN OF YOUR RENOWN COME TO VISIT --
-- IT IS JUST AS PLEASURABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SUSAN STORM. YOU ARE AS BEAUTIFUL AS I REMEMBERED
IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS ALONE, TWO EXPED TIONS SENT FORTH TO LOCATE THE IMPACT S,TE OF THE ANOMALY OBJECT HAVE VANISHED WITHOUT A TRACE
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT'S ALREADY BEEN A YEAR SINCE THE PAN-AFRICAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT, T'CHALLA.
REED AND I ARE HERE HOPING THAT YOU CAN HELP US.
I WOULD LIKE THAT UNFORTUNATELY, I FEAR THERE ARE DARK FORCES AT WORK IN MY COUNTRY
NOW I FEEL I MUST INVESTIGATE THIS SITUATION FOR MYSELF.
BUT FIRST, I MUST PREPARE FOR OUR JOURNEY
LIKE THE REST OF THE WORLD, I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE EXPLOITS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND YOUR TRANSFORMATION BY THE STELLAR ANOMALY
APPARENTLY, WE ALL SEEK ANSWERS THAT LIE HIDDEN IN THE HEART OF THE JUNGLE.
I AM THE LAST OF THE WARRIOR KINGS. IN ADDITION TO GUIDANCE, MY PEOPLE NEED MY COURAGE.
THEREFORE, WHEN YOU TRAVEL INTO THE JUNGLE, YOU WILL NOT BE AIDED SIMPLY BY T'CHALLA, KING OF WAKANDA, BUT BY THE WARRIOR AVATAR OF MY COUNTRY --
-- THE BLACK PANTHER!

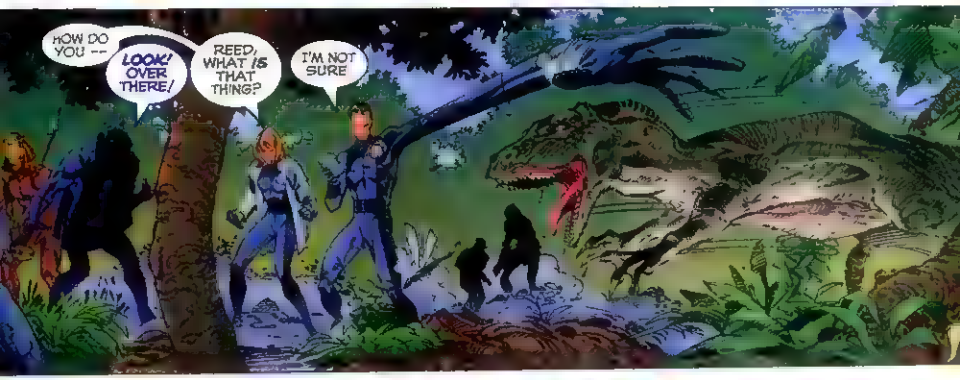
NOW, I MUST MEET WITH MY COUNCIL TO INSTRUCT THEM AS TO THEIR DUTIES IN MY ABSENCE.
IN THE MEANTIME, THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD REST. YOU MUST BE SPENT FROM YOUR JOURNEY
ALL RIGHT WE'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING --
"-- AND DEPART AT FIRST LIGHT."
INTERESTING MAN, T'CHALLA
IT'S NOT OFTEN YOU MEET THE RULER OF A COUNTRY WHO WANTS TO DON A COSTUME LIKE SOME SUPER HERO?
Shhhh IT'S A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST BE QUIET AND ENJOY IT
Hmmm I THINK I CAN MANAGE THAT...

EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
THIS WAS THE PATH TAKEN BY BOTH OF THE PREVIOUS EXPEDITIONS. WE ARE NOW ENTERING UNCHARTED TERRITORY.
SUSAN, FROM HERE, I CAN OFFER YOU AND DR RICHARDS NO FURTHER GUARANTEES CONCERNING YOUR SAFETY ON THIS JOURNEY

WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES, T'CHALLA
WE'VE DEFINITELY CROSSED INTO A FALLOUT ZONE. GENETIC MUTATION OF THE INDIGENOUS FOLIAGE IS OCCURING AT AN ACCELERATED RATE
AIR QUALITY IS WITHIN TOLERANCE, REED BUT THE COSMIC RADIATION LEVELS HAVE DETERIORATED WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS... AS THOUGH THE SOURCE WAS SUDDENLY SHUT DOWN.

WE MUST BE APPROACHING GROUND ZERO.
JUST LOOK AT THESE TREES! THEY SHOULD ONLY BE SIX TO EIGHT FEET TALL. BUT NOW THEY'RE TOWERING UP TO THE SKY LIKE SEQUOIA REDWOODS.


STOP! HOLD YOUR POSITIONS! WE ARE BEING WATCHED!


HOW DO YOU --
LOOK! OVER THERE!
REED, WHAT IS THAT THING?
I'M NOT SURE

IT IS MERELY A LIZARD.
NOT JUST ANY LIZARD, T'CHALLA. IT'S BEEN EXPOSED TO HIGH LEVELS OF COSMIC RADIATION. IN MUCH THE SAME WAY SUE AND I WERE
BUT SURELY IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MY WARRIORS
ROAR

YOU ARE CORRECT, HUMAN!
EH?
WHO?

YEARGH!
BUT YOU'LL NOT LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO LEARN THE TRUTH!
SHRP
BE ON YOUR GUARD! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
LOOK OVER THERE! IT'S GOT ANOTHER ONE OF T'CHALLA'S WARRIORS!
THERE MUST BE MORE THAN ONE OF THEM!
AAAIEEE!
KEEP MOVING! WE MUST NOT LET THEM SURROUND US!
BUT WHERE DO WE GO?
STAND BACK, MY LIEGE!
FRAAAAP FRAAAAP
HOLD YOUR FIRE! DON'T EXPEND YOUR AMMUNITION UNTIL YOU HAVE A CLEAR --
R-OK
PING PING PING
SUE! GET AWAY FROM THERE!
THERE'S NO TIME TO RUN, REED! ONLY ONE CHANCE!

AT THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT, SUE STORM USES HER POWER TO CREATE AN INVISIBLE FORCE FIELD TO SAVE REED AND HERSELF FROM THE DEADLY BLAST...
...JUST ONE OF THE AMAZING NEW ABILITIES SHE HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO MASTER, SINCE BECOMING EMPOWERED BY THE COSMIC RADIATION.
KRA-KOOM
UNNNH!
VEEP VEEP VEEP
AND SO, SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER...
THE PADD'S LOCKED ONTO THE SOURCE OF THE RADIATION
APPARENTLY, WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES INTERESTED IN THE OBJECT.
PORTABLE ANALYSIS AND DETECTION DEVICE -- Mike
SOMEONE'S BEEN A STEP AHEAD OF US ALL ALONG -- AND ACCORDING TO THESE READINGS, WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IS INSIDE THAT CONTAINER.
ONCE THEY GET IT ABOARD THAT AIRCRAFT, THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE THEY MIGHT TAKE IT.
THEN IT'S UP TO US TO STOP THEM
LET ME GET A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR "FRIENDS" --

" -- GOOD LORD! IT'S WINGFOOT!"
QUICKLY NOW! LOAD OUR PRIZE INTO THE CARGO BAY.
THE MORE TIME WE SPEND IN THIS JUNGLE ONLY INCREASES THE RISK OF FAILURE -- AND I WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THE SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION.
SO WHAT DO WE -- MMPH?!
FEAR NOT. IT IS I, THE BLACK PANTHER.
YOU'RE ALIVE, T'CHALLA!
I MANAGED TO JUMP CLEAR OF THE BLAST.
THEN OUR ODDS OF SUCCESS HAVE JUST IMPROVED.
THOSE MEN DOWN THERE INTEND TO ABSCOND WITH THE STELLAR ANOMALY. I FEAR THAT THEY MAY HAVE ALSO PLAYED A ROLE IN THE DISAPPEARANCES OF YOUR MEN!
THEN THE TIME HAS COME TO AVENGE THEM.
KLIK
WATCH OUT! WE'VE SET OFF A TRAP!
CONTAINMENT WALLS CLOSING IN ALL AROUND US!
CA -- CAN'T KEEP -- THEM -- OPEN!

WE'RE SEALED INSIDE!
RICHARDS! TRY TO FIND A CRACK AND SQUEEZE THROUGH!
WAIT! WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
AARGH! NEURO-DISRUPTORS!
UUNNNGH! MY HEAD! THE PAIN!
CAN'T --- THINK --- STRAIGHT!
ZZZRAAP
SIR! THE INTRUDERS HAVE BEEN NEUTRALIZED.
BRING THEM ABOARD AS WELL.
IT'S TIME WE LEAVE THIS PLACE.
WE'RE RUNNING BEHIND SCHEDULE...

"...AND NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE MASTER WILL NOT BE PLEASED."
COCKADOODLEDOO
UHHHHHGG!
THANK HEAVENS! SHE'S ALL RIGHT AND COMING TO.
T'CHALLA?
I AM UNHARMED, Dr. RICHARDS. BUT ALL MY SENSES TELL ME THAT WE ARE NO LONGER IN WAKANDA. OR PERHAPS EVEN AFRICA, FOR THAT MATTER.
BUT WHO BROUGHT US HERE AND WHY? WHAT IS GOING ON?
AS ONE RULER TO ANOTHER, I SHALL ENLIGHTEN YOU WITH THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK, T'CHALLA OF WAKANDA.
WHO --?
THAT VOICE! DESPITE ITS ELECTRONIC DISTORTION, I'D RECOGNIZE IT ANYWHERE!

I BID YOU ALL WELCOME TO THE CASTLE OF VICTOR VON DOOM, THE RULER OF LATVERIA.
IT IS MY HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY YOUR STAY HERE --
HOW FLATTERING. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, RICHARDS, YOU STILL REMEMBER ME!
BUT THEN, HOW COULD YOU EVER HOPE TO EXPUNGE FROM YOUR MEMORY THE NAME OF THE ONLY MAN WHO WAS -- AND STILL IS -- YOUR INTELLECTUAL SUPERIOR!
-- FOR NONE OF YOU SHALL EVER LEAVE THIS PLACE ALIVE!
TO BE CONTINUED!